

REMARKS

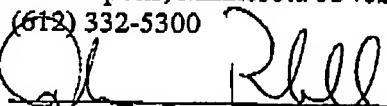
Reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant hereby elects for further prosecution the claims of Group I (claims 2-12), and cancels without prejudice or disclaimer the claims of Group II (claims 13-22) as being drawn to a non-elected invention. New claims 23-35 have been added and are supported by the claims 2-12. Applicant requests consideration of new claims 23-35 with the Group I claims. Claims 10 and 12 have been amended to correct an inconsistent use of terms in those claims with the terms used in claim 1.

The specification has been amended to properly complete the chain of priority back to application Serial No. 09/755,316, filed on December 29, 2000 (issued as U.S. 6,520,199).

Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the application in the form of a Notice of Allowance. If a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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